

**Montana Area Office  
Billings, Montana**

Media Contact: Todd Dixon (406) 247-7300

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## **Draft Commercial Services Plan For Canyon Ferry Reservoir Is Released**

A draft commercial services plan (CSP) and financial feasibility evaluation for Canyon Ferry Reservoir has been completed and is being released today for public review according to Dan Jewell, Montana Area Manager for the Bureau of Reclamation.

Jewell said the CSP provides information on the types of commercial facilities and services that are necessary and appropriate at Canyon Ferry Reservoir. The CSP will set the stage for the future of concession operations around the entire reservoir. The report was prepared by Aukerman, Haas & Associates, a consulting firm in Fort Collins, Colorado, that specializes in water-based recreation planning.

Jewell acknowledged that since completion of the 2003 Final Resource Management Plan / Environmental Assessment for Canyon Ferry Reservoir (RMP/EA), a significant amount of public concern has been expressed about the future of concession operations at Canyon Ferry. "Hopefully the existing concessionaires and public will find the draft CSP responsive to feedback received from the recreating public, particularly those that use Canyon Ferry on a regular basis," Jewell also added that the draft plan was completed on schedule and as directed in the RMP/EA.

The draft CSP will be finalized following a 45-day public review and comment period. Public meetings will be conducted as follows:

- September 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00-9:00p.m., East Valley Middle School Cafeteria in East Helena
- September 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00-9:00p.m., Broadwater School & Library Community Room in Townsend

Comments regarding the plan can be mailed to Aukerman, Haas & Associates, LLC, 729 Duke Square, Fort Collins, Colorado, 80525, or e-mailed to [auk@lamar.colostate.edu](mailto:auk@lamar.colostate.edu).

The draft CSP is available online at <http://www.usbr.gov/gp/mtao/canyonferry/>.